

## OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER . COUNTY EXECUTIVE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 3, 2004

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## MILWAUKEE COUNTY EXECUTIVE SCOTT WALKER TO OPEN PARKS MOUNTAIN BIKING TRAIL

MILWAUKEE – Milwaukee County Executive Scott Walker will cut the ribbon to open the Park System's first legally designated mountain biking trail on Friday, June 4, 2004 at 9:00 a.m. in Whitnall Park, 6740 S. 92<sup>nd</sup> Street. The trail was designed with the help of the International Mountain Bike Association, the Trail Care Specialist Service and constructed by volunteers of the Metro Mountain Bikers, Milwaukee's Chapter of the Wisconsin Off-Road Bicycling Association. The three-mile trail is open to the public during normal park hours at no charge.

"This is another example of the public/private partnerships that enhance our Park System," commented County Executive Walker. "Without the support of the Metro Mountain Bikers, residents would not be able to legally ride on mountain biking trails in Milwaukee County."

Riding on mountain bike trails has increased in popularity over the years but because of its novelty, planning for these trails has not been addressed by many governmental entities. With the assistance of volunteer organizations, trails are being designed so that there is little or no impact on the environment and users will be assured of a safe trail.

"This trail system has been a goal of ours for the past several years and is seen by us as the first step in upgrading the trail system throughout the entire County," explained Marty Weigel of the Metro Mountain Bikers. "The trail in Whitnall Park will be open to bikers in one direction as well as to hikers, joggers, cross country skiers and snow shoe users."

Milwaukee County Park System's first legally designated Mountain Biking Trail, located at 6740 S. 92<sup>nd</sup> Street in Whitnall Park will open to the public in a ceremony on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. For more information, please contact Steve Mokrohisky at (414) 278-4304.

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